



MEPI Insight



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U.S. EMBASSY ALGIERS



MEPI Algeria supports youth civic engagement in Ouargla



Education for Employment “Increasing Employment in Algeria”

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Injaz El Djazair Success Stories



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“It was a memorable experience. I have learned something that opened up my eyes and mind for my professional decision. Thank you, Unilever, for this day. Thank you, Injaz El Djazair, and thank you, MEPI.”
Adam Bouziane

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MEPI celebrates International Earth Day and U.S. National Volunteer Week



On Monday, April 18, MEPI Algeria organized a forum entitled, “Environment and Volunteerism: Promote, Protect and Get Involved!,” to celebrate International Earth Day and U.S. National Volunteer Week. The forum brought together entrepreneurs, researchers, and civil society members who work on environmental issues in the social, political, and economic arenas. In her opening remarks, Ana Escrogima, Acting Deputy Chief of Mission, mentioned that this year the U.S. government and the Algerian government will celebrate Earth Day by having our respective foreign ministers join the United Nations signing ceremony for the Paris Climate Agreement to reduce carbon emissions and improve the future for the world. The panelists featured **Mehdi Benaiche Adjaoud**, an Algerian TV journalist whose passion for Algeria’s environment led him to organize campaigns such as “Garbage collectors of the Sea,” to clean the beaches before the summer, and “The Garden of Angels,” for planting trees; **Karima Bergueul**, President of the Association for Women in the Green Economy (AFEV); **Houria Oulbsir**, President of the Environmental Commission

from the Algerian wilaya; and **Abderahmane Djellal**, an environmental protection leader from Tizi Ouzou. This event was a great opportunity to recognize leaders of environmental initiatives and to inspire people to seek out green, imaginative ways to engage in their communities.

MEPI partners with EFE to increase youth employability in Algeria

The MEPI-funded project “Increasing Employment in Algeria” offers an integrated approach to promote job creation by generating predictable employment in partnership with different organizations and companies operating in Algeria, placing long-term unemployed youth in existing jobs through a pilot job training and placement program and improving the



employability of public education institution students. This project is implemented by Education for Employment (EFE). EFE’s mission is to create economic opportunity for unemployed youth in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) by providing world-class professional and technical training that leads directly to jobs and entrepreneurship support. On May 18, EFE organized a workshop in collaboration with the Spanish-Algerian Chamber of Commerce (CCIAE) to introduce the EFE project in Algeria and discuss the Algerian labor market performance, the actual skills valued by employers, and available training options. This workshop was also an opportunity to discuss the current local business context and upcoming developments in the Algerian economy.

MEPI and HI promote job opportunities for people with disabilities

PEOPLE (Promoting Employment Opportunities for People with disabilities through Local Endeavors), a project funded by MEPI and implemented by Handicap International, aims to help people living with disabilities (PWD), providing them with greater opportunities for gainful employment in order to reduce their social and economic exclusion. The project focuses in particular on youth and women. Actions will be led primarily at the local level in Jijel and Ghardaïa by Handicap International in partnership with three local associations.



Fatiha is a talented 23-year-old woman from Jijel who lives her life to the fullest. Her dream was pursue her passion for weaving and embroidery and to run her own business. All she wanted to do was to shape her own future, as most people could. *“Thanks to Handicap International and MEPI, I benefited from the PEOPLE project which allowed me to receive the appropriate support and guidance to start my own business, participate in many exhibitions, and meet valuable professional contacts. Now I am smiling with confidence, and I am planning to develop my business and hire people to offer them the same opportunity I had.”*

MEPI Algeria trains 35 young civic leaders in Ouargla

On April 20, 35 young civil society leaders from Ouargla and surrounding areas attended the one-day “MEPI NGOs Capacity Building Workshop,” which was organized by the U.S. Embassy Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) of the U.S. Embassy in Algiers and hosted by Mostafa Ben Boulaïd Youth House of Ouargla. This workshop was a great opportunity for these young, southern leaders to share their first-hand experiences with such activities as branding, fundraising, project writing, and communication. The workshop content and sharing of best practices aimed to help participants develop better organizational, communication, and financial skills to facilitate effective management and financial autonomy.



Injaz El Djazair phase 2 “Empower New Generation Project: Job Shadow”

The “Job Shadow” program is the second part of the MEPI-Funded “Empower a New Generation” project implemented by Injaz El Djazair. This program introduces students to careers through one-day, on-site mentoring opportunities with different companies. It offers an authentic, real-world experience for students who participated in the first phase of this project, the “Steer Your Career” program, by providing experiential learning sessions in work-readiness education and career planning. The Job Shadow program targeted 253 students from different Algerian universities in Algiers, Boumerdes, Blida, Adrar, and M’sila in collaboration with HIKMA Pharmaceutical, GE ALGESCO, TOYOTA Algérie and Unilever Algeria.



“The Job Shadow Day within TOYOTA was a very nice and unforgettable experience. Thank you, TOYOTA team, for giving us this chance to enjoy a very well organized program, Djazair.” Bencharef F.Z.

“It was a valuable experience; it allowed me to make the link between my studies and the work. Thank you, MEPI. Thank you, HIKMA and Injaz Djazair.”

Ouwais Stambouli

“This was a very rich program. There is no better way to understand something than to experience it, live it, and do it. Today we had the chance to do all of that, and we had a lot of fun”

Hadger Tennah

“It was such a great experience. It is an opportunity to know more about the real workplace; many thanks to the GE ALGESCO team — they were awesome.”

Ameur Soualmi